

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter )

CC Docket No. 95-116

Telephone Number Portability )

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**SBC COMMUNICATION INC.'S REPLY TO COMMENTS ON AND OPPOSITION TO  
PETITIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION**

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 ) CC Docket No. 95-116  
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SBC Communications Inc. (“SBC”), by its attorneys and on behalf of its subsidiaries, including Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (“SWBT”), Southwestern Bell Mobile Systems, Inc. (“SBMS”), and Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. (“SBCS”), files this Reply to Comments on and Oppositions to Petitions For Reconsideration of the Commission’s First Report and Order released July 2, 1996, relating to telephone number portability.<sup>1</sup>

### A. QOR IS A VIABLE OPTION

<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 96-286, CC Docket No. 95-116 (Released July 2, 1996)(“Report and Order”).

QOR.<sup>2</sup> This impression is incorrect. In fact, the choice is not whether to employ LRN or QOR as the principle method of deploying number portability as defined in The Telecommunications Act of 1996, but instead whether to permit the implementation of the QOR software add-on to supplement LRN which will reduce the cost of deployment.

Further, several commenters attacked the performance of LRN with QOR on an uninformed basis:

- Contrary to the implications of some oppositions,<sup>3</sup> the demonstrated technical reliability of LRN with QOR is no less than that of LRN alone. While SBC agrees that LRN with QOR is not yet tested,<sup>4</sup> the same can be said for LRN without QOR. Briefly put, no number portability solution, including LRN itself, has been “proven” reliable. This is not, however, a sufficient reason to dismiss the cost savings that LRN with QOR offers.
- Nextlink contends that in violation of the standards of the First Report and Order, LRN with QOR requires carriers to rely on competitors’ networks.<sup>5</sup> First, to the extent that LRN with QOR is used for intranetwork telecommunications, this point is irrelevant and inaccurate. The issue is whether similar calls are treated similarly on the porting network. Obviously, all calls originating on the ILEC’s network depend on the ILEC’s network for routing, whether or not those calls are completed to ported numbers. In each scenario, an ILEC’s customer’s local call to a ported number relies on the ILEC network, whether LRN is used with or without QOR.
- MCI and others contend that LRN with QOR is discriminatory.<sup>6</sup> While LRN with QOR does treat some calls differently than others, no one disputes that ported customers will not experience “impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience” in their telecommunications services as a result of changing carriers.<sup>7</sup> The measurement of any alleged impairment must be made as a result of a comparison

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<sup>2</sup>ALTS Opposition at 3.

<sup>3</sup>Sprint Opposition at 5; AT&T Opposition at 10-14.

<sup>4</sup>See Time Warner Opposition at 3.

<sup>5</sup>Nextlink Opposition at 2,5; Time Warner Opposition at 4-5.

<sup>6</sup>MCI Opposition at 9-11; Sprint Opposition at 2.

<sup>7</sup>See Statutory definition of “number portability.” 47 U.S.C. § 153(30).

between the porting and ported carriers;<sup>8</sup> to the extent that ported carriers' customers experience no delays in excess of those experienced by porting carriers' customers, LRN with QOR meets the letter and the spirit of the law.

- MCI's comments on post-dial delay ("PDD"), contending that the relevant time added in a LRN with QOR implementation is 1700 milliseconds<sup>9</sup> is, at best, misleading. MCI's description of the potential PDD scenarios include elements not relevant to the deployment of LRN with QOR versus LRN alone (e.g., continuity checks). The only credible evidence is that (1) the real PDD will be experienced only by the customers of LECs deploying QOR, and (2) the actual PDD is much lower than that claimed by MCI, is imperceptible to the calling party, and is unknown to the ported customer.<sup>10</sup>
- As was pointed out by USTA and others in their petition for reconsideration, LRN with QOR will reduce costs, preserve intranetwork efficiencies, and speed deployment by limiting the need to deploy additional SS7 capacity.<sup>11</sup> While some opponents attack the "estimate" of LRN with QOR cost savings,<sup>12</sup> no one can argue against the public interest in cost savings in any amount that ultimately will benefit consumers. The attacks on estimated cost savings are, therefore, unfounded and against public policy.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>8</sup>See Second Report and Order, CC Docket No. 96-98, F.C.C. 96-333 (August 8, 1996) ("Second Interconnection Order") at ¶¶160-64.

<sup>9</sup>MCI Opposition at 9.

<sup>10</sup>See Bell Atlantic Petition at 3-4; BellSouth Petition at 22; Pacific Telesis Petition at 5-6; and US West Petition at 13.

<sup>11</sup>See USTA Petition at 7-10; Bell Atlantic Petition at 1-2; NYNEX Petition at 5-7.

<sup>12</sup>AT&T Opposition at 16-19; Time Warner Opposition at 3; Sprint Opposition at 4; MCI Opposition at 12-13.

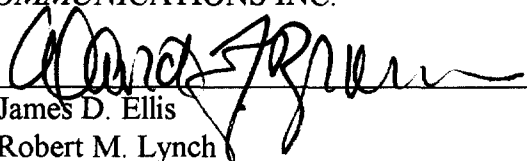
<sup>13</sup>In addition, AT&T attacks on procedural grounds are unfounded. SBC set forth a proper foundation under 47 C.F.R. §1.429(b) in its Petition for Reconsideration.

B. OMITTED ARGUMENTS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

To the extent that SBC does not specifically address the contentions of an opponent or commenter in this Reply, it does not intend to waive the arguments set forth in its Petition for Reconsideration. SBC also incorporates by reference the USTA Reply to Oppositions to Petitions for Reconsideration filed contemporaneously with this filing.

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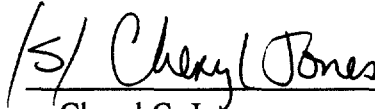
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Cheryl C. Jones, hereby certify that copies of SBC COMMUNICATIONS INC.'S  
REPLY TO COMMENTS ON AND OPPOSITION TO PETITIONS FOR  
RECONSIDERATION in CC Docket No. 95-116, have been served by first class United States  
mail, postage prepaid, on the parties listed on the attached.

  
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